

**COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION  
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**  
(includes reference to PCT International Applications)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  
**AUTOMATIC FIBER PROCESSING SYSTEM INCLUDING METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING END-ALIGNED FIBER SAMPLES**, the specification of which

( ) is attached hereto.

( ) was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_, (if applicable).

(x) was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/IB2003/001805 on  
28 March 2003 and was amended under PCT Article 19 on N/A, (If  
applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign/PCT Application(s)  
(if PCT, indicate "PCT" under Country)

Priority Claimed

|                          |            |                      |     |     |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------------|-----|-----|
| <u>PCT/IB2003/001805</u> | <u>PCT</u> | <u>28/03/2003</u>    | (X) | ( ) |
| Number                   | Country    | Day/Month/Year Filed | Yes | No  |

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code Section 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT International Application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in such prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, Section 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.  
or PCT Application No.  
(and any assigned USSN)

U.S. or PCT  
Filing Date

Status -- Patented  
Pending, or Abandoned

PCT/IB2003/001805

28/03/2003

Pending

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named Inventor, I hereby appoint all attorney(s) and/or agent(s) of the firm Dority & Manning, P.A. associated with Customer Number 22827, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Shekaripuram Narayanaswamy RAMACHANDRAN

(Full name of first inventor)

Inventor's Signature: 

Date: 17.09.2005

Residence: INDIA

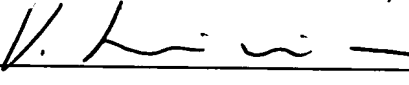
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Date: 17.09.2005

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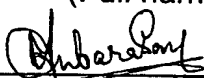
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